

REMARKS

In the above-identified Office Action the claims were rejected as being obvious in view of a combination of the disclosures of the cited Hahm and Wachter patents. In response, Applicants have amended the independent claims so that all of remaining Claims 1-4, 11-14, and 19-22, are believed to be patentably distinct over those references.

In particular, independent Claim 1 requires a control system which includes a control apparatus adapted to receive an operation panel for operating a controlled apparatus, from the controlled apparatus, to display the operation panel on a display unit, and an operation apparatus having a first operation unit for operating the operation panel and a second operation unit for operating a specific function of the controlled apparatus. The control apparatus is arranged to determine, according to the control signal, whether the first operation unit or a second operation unit is to be operated. In this regard a first command is sent from the control apparatus to the controlled apparatus if it is determined that the first operation unit is operated, and a second command is sent from the control apparatus to the controlled apparatus if it is determined that the second operation unit is operated. Also the operation panel is updated using data sent from the controlled apparatus to the control apparatus in response to the second command.

These features of the present invention are not disclosed by the cited Wachter and Hahm patents, taken singly or combined. As stated in the Office Action, the Wachter patent fails to disclose that a control apparatus receives an operation panel from a controlled apparatus. This reference therefore also fails to disclose the updating of the operation panel using data sent from the controlled apparatus to the control apparatus in response to a second command, as required in amended independent Claim 1. The Hahm patent also fails to disclose the updating of the

operation panel, as required in amended independent Claim 1, although this reference may disclose in Fig.8 to receive and display selectable functions from a controlled apparatus.

For these reasons, the cited Wachter and Hahm patents, when taken alone or in combination, do not teach the present invention as set forth in amended independent Claim 1.

Amended independent Claim 11 requires a control apparatus included in a system as set forth in Claim 1, and is believed to be patentable for the same reasons as stated above regarding Claim 1. Similarly, Claim 9 is a method claim corresponding to Claim 11, and is believed to be patentable for these same reasons.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants believe that the claims are allowable and the issuance of a Notice of Allowance is solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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